



Gazette Working Group on Editorial Organization and Budget

10 July 2016

Council

1. Preamble

The Gazette underwent significant editorial and budgetary changes over the past three years. The organization has moved from being four days in-print to a twice-a-week schedule. The Gazette is undergoing a substantial digital transformation and has moved towards a daily online schedule during the academic year. The digital mandate came with a fee increase approved by the Gazette's publisher, the University Students' Council. Recently, the Gazette also absorbed the USC's video/television platform — Western TV.

This working group will examine a list of editorial and budgetary aspects of the Gazette and make recommendations for the organization's future direction in these areas. The group will explore the effects of any changes to the Gazette's editorial, advertising and production on its finances and annual budget. The Gazette's student-focused mandate and digital future will be key considerations in any recommendations of the group to the Publications Committee and the USC.

2. Objectives

- i. Editorial review – An internal review of the Gazette's current editorial model, alternative models, future changes, and analyzing any relating and resulting financial and staff considerations.
- ii. Operating Budget – Undertake a review of the Gazette's operating budget lines and provide recommendations for any changes.
- iii. Budget presentation – Seek a better understanding and presentation of the Gazette budget to Council and to the student body.

3. Timeline

- i. Present regular updates to Council throughout the process through the Council Representative.
- ii. Present the initial findings and recommendations of this working group to the Gazette Publications Committee no later than October 30, 2016.
- iii. Present the final findings and recommendations of this working group and the Publications Committee to Council on February 15th, 2017.
- iv. Should the recommendations stemming from this group be unsatisfactory, Council may instate a third-party review, in addition to the creation of an ad-hoc committee of the Board to explore alternative budgetary models.

4. Members

- i. Hamza Tariq – Gazette Editor-in-Chief
- ii. Ian Greaves – Gazette Manager
- iii. Jason Menard – Gazette Publications Committee Chair
- iv. Isaac Jacobi – Secretary-Treasurer



- v. Carrie Ferguson-Passi – Managing Director of Corporate and Financial Resources
- vi. Council Representative
- vii. Board Representative

5. Consultations

The working group consists of members of the Gazette, The Publications Committee, The USC Executive, USC staff, Council, and the Board. In addition to group dialogue and discussions, the working group will solicit a wide array of expert consultations and research any changes stemming from its objectives.

6. Context and Enactment

- 1. Documents Repealed – N/A
- 2. Supporting/Related Documents – N/A
- 3. Date Passed –
- 4. All previous Amendments